

reconnaissance permits have been given in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Other projects are awaiting clearance from the State Governments or environmental authorities or financial closures on the part of the investors. There are no FDI proposals on the coal side.

Lignite Mining at Neyveli

1065. SHRI S. NIRAIKULATHAN: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of lignite mined at Neyveli in Tamil Nadu each year;

(b) the annual royalty payable to the Government of Tamil Nadu by the Cent.

(c) the balance of royalty on account of lignite mining due to be paid to Tamil Nadu; and

(d) by when this is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The quantum of lignite mined by Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. (NLC) at Neyveli in Tamil Nadu for the last three years are as under:

| Year | Quantum in Lakh Tonnes |
|-----------|------------------------|
| 1998-1999 | 181.68 |
| 1999-2000 | 175.51 |
| 2000-2001 | 181.72 |

(b) to (d) Royalty is not payable by the Central Government to the State Government under the provision of Mine and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957. It is the Mineral producing companies which pay royalty on the minerals to the concerned State Government under the provisions of aforesaid Act. The Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. (NLC) which produces lignite in the State of Tamil Nadu has been paying royalty to the State Government

regularly and no balance of such payment is due for the present. The amount of royalty paid by NLC to the Government of Tamil Nadu during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

| Year | Amount |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1998-1999 | 4.52 |
| 1999-2000 | 4.35 |
| 2000-2001 | 4.55 |
| Advance royalty paid in March 2001 | 250.00 |

Allocation of Coal to Gujarat State Electricity Board from Korea Rewa

1066. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal Linkage Committee has considered the proposal of Gujarat Electricity Board to restore allocation of 50 per cent coal from Korea Rewa instead of 31.3 per cent;

(b) if not, whether the item of Coal Linkage to GEB was put on the agenda of the Committee meeting every quarter; and

(c) what is the financial implication if the GEB's proposal is accepted by Coal Linkage Committee, both to the Ministry of Coal and to the GEB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Linkages of coal are accorded every quarter by Standing Linkage Committee (Short-term), an inter-ministerial body functioning in the Ministry of Coal, and comprising of representatives from coal companies, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Ministry of Power, the power utilities and the Railways. The allocations of coal are made, keeping in view the availability of required grades and quantities and transport logistics. After considering the request of